

F10-544

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

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Deportations from the Kandava Area (an area approximately 60 km. west of Riga).

1. The only deportations observed were in 1949, when five families were deported from Matkule, approximately 11 km. southwest of Kandava. The deported families later sent letters from Siberia. It was known that at least one family was not in a camp but living free on a kolkhoz. Similar information was also later received from other deportees.

Deportations from the Jelgava Area (approximately 40 km. southwest of Riga).

2. Deportations from Latvia in the spring of 1949 were carried out in order to force the farmers to join the kolkhozy. At that time, observations were made one night approximately one-half kilometer from the Jelgava-Dobele highway. From approximately 2200 hours, empty trucks with MVD guards, travelling from Jelgava toward Dobele, were observed; and, soon afterwards, they returned toward Jelgava crowded with people. In the back of each truck were two MVD guards with rifles. This movement between Jelgava and Dobele in both directions continued all night, and the shouts and cries of the people could be heard.
3. It was said that the deportees were permitted to take some personal belongings with them, but these were later taken away from them at Jelgava railway station.
4. The following morning, a guard and two cattle-keepers arrived at the farm houses vacated by the deportees to guard against pilfering and to look after the cattle. Approximately a week after the deportation, the farms belonging to the deported farmers were joined to kolkhozy.
5. Most farmers who until this time had resisted joining a kolkhoz now joined one "voluntarily". Each farmer was permitted to keep one cow out of every four, but he had to give 2,000 liters of milk per cow per annum, a specified amount of butter, and one calf to the State.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW